

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**[0081]** A silicon controlled rectifier electrostatic discharge protection circuit with external on-chip triggering and compact internal dimensions for fast triggering. The ESD protection circuit includes a silicon controlled rectifier (SCR) having an anode coupled to the protected circuitry and a cathode coupled to ground, where the cathode has at least one high-doped region. At least one trigger-tap is disposed proximate to the at least one high-doped region and an external on-chip triggering device is coupled to the trigger-tap and the protected circuitry.